

DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP



A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers.

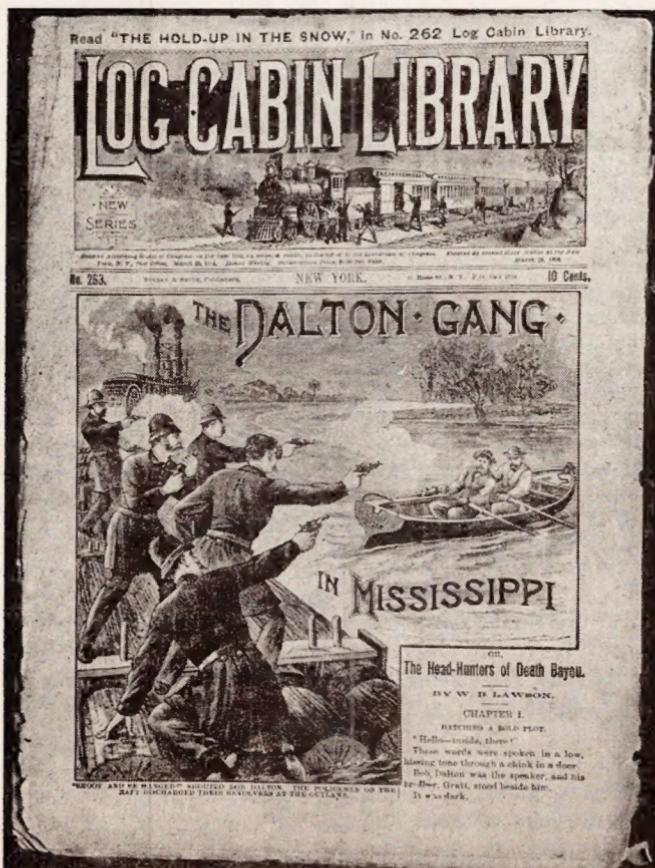
Vol. 24, No. 10

October 15, 1956

Whole No. 289

Outlaw Trails In Indian Territory

By J. Edward Leithead



Stories about the Dalton Gang appeared frequently in Street & Smith's Log Cabin Library. (From the LeBlanc collection.)

OUTLAW TRAILS IN INDIAN TERRITORY

Third of a series of articles about famous bandits and badmen of the Old West in dime novels.

By J. Edward Leithead

Quite as well-known as the James Boys and the Younger Brothers were the Dalton Boys of Indian Territory at a later period. And nearly as many talking pictures of these outlaws have been produced as of the James-Younger combination. Their father, Louis Dalton, who fought in the Mexican War, was from Kentucky. He settled in Missouri for a time, married Adeline Younger. No doubt the pioneering urge of those times induced Louis Dalton to migrate with his family to what was then called Indian Territory or "the Nations". Dalton and his wife were fine, upright folk, and only four of their fifteen children rode the outlaw trail—Grattan, Bill, Bob and Emmett.

They were good fighting men, these Daltons, and it looked, in the beginning, as though they would make big names for themselves as lawmen in a territory overrun with men "on the dodge". Frank Dalton wore the badge of a deputy United States marshal, was bullet-riddled making an arrest. Grattan was next to wear a deputy marshal's badge, then Bob. Emmett, the youngest Dalton, made the fourth

of the group riding for the law.

It seems that failure to be paid their deputy's fees, for hard, dangerous work, caused the Daltons to turn in their badges. Later, according to one account, there was trouble over a sale of horses, said to have been stolen by the Daltons, and they made tracks for California. Passing through New Mexico, they raided a gambling-hall in a gold camp, not without provocation. In Tulare County, California, a Southern Pacific train was stopped and the fireman got in the way of a Winchester slug. If this wasn't the Daltons' first train robbery, at least they were suspected, found the law hot on their heels, and Grattan not only was captured but sentenced, later making his getaway.

Back in Oklahoma Territory, they made a good-sized haul from the express-car of a Santa Fe train at Wharton. The Daltons were heard from in the Cherokee Strip, where they pulled the Red Rock train robbery. Then their masked faces appeared, their Winchesters menaced in the plundering of another train near Vinita. Before this, the Daltons had added new members to their gang, one being Bill Doolin, himself a leader of outlaws later on. Others were Dick Broadwell, Bill Powers and Charlie Bryant. The latter was run down by Ed Short, a deputy United States marshal, for his part in the Wharton holdup; they shot each other to death

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Published Monthly at
821 Vermont Street, Lawrence, Kansas

Edited by

Edward T. LeBlanc, 36 Taylor St., Fall River, Mass.

Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Lawrence, Kansas

Price \$2.00 per year

Assistant Editor

Ralph F. Cummings, Fisherville, Mass.

Asst. Ed. Photography—Charles Duprez, 228 Larch Lane, Smithtown, L.I., N.Y.

Ad Rates — 6c per word, \$1.00 per inch, quarter page \$2.25, half page \$3.00 and Full Page \$5.00. — 4 times for the price of three.

Ads should be submitted by the 15th of the month in order to assure publication in the following month's issue.

on a train bound for Wichita, Kansas, where Bryant was to be jailed.

The daring of the James-Younger band was repeated in the exploits of the Dalton Boys, and so, also, was their luck in long evading capture. The Pinkerton agency was busy again, trying to round up these wild riders of Oklahoma. Another train robbery, this time on the M. K. & T., at Adair, where bullets sang. And a \$10,000 haul from the El Reno bank. It is said that Bob Dalton was eager to excel the James-Younger outfit, and thus the double bank robbery Coffeyville, Kansas, came to be planned.

This holdup by five nervy bandits—three of the Daltons, Dick Broadwell and Bill Powers—was very close to being successful. The Condon Bank was tackled by Grattan Dalton, Broadwell and Powers. The three bandits were delayed in getting loot from the bank vault when the cashier tricked them by saying it worked by a time-lock and couldn't be opened for ten minutes yet. Ten minutes proved time enough for Coffeyville citizens to grab hardware and take positions for what followed. Bob and Emmett Dalton cleaned out the First National Bank and trailed spurs streetward with the loot. Grattan, Broadwell and Powers were in trouble by now, on the run from the Condon Bank. Making for the horses, all five bandits walked into a crossfire and began falling. Coffeyville men were felled by the outlaws' fire, too. Emmett could have got away, but raced to the side of his brother Bob and was gunned out of the saddle while striving to rescue a man mortally wounded. Emmett lived to go to the Lansing penitentiary, Kansas, where he remained fourteen or fifteen years and was released. I believe he died, a good citizen, about 1938 in California. Bill Dalton and Bill Doolin, who were not in the Coffeyville raid, lived to ride the owlhoot awhile longer. But they, too, came to trail's end for outlaws.

Dime novelists used much factual material in writing of the outlaw deeds of the Dalton Boys, just as they

had with the James-Younger gang. Frank Tousey seems to have passed them up in his publications, as did Beadle & Adams, but Street & Smith issued a long run of Dalton Boys stories in Log Cabin Library. I give the list herewith—all were written by T. W. Hanshew and St. George Rathborne under the pen-name "W. B. Lawson."

- #185—The Dalton Boys and the M. K. & T. Train Robbery.
- #191—The Dalton Boys' Smooth Trick, or, The Robbery of the Bank at El Paso.
- #200—The Dalton Boys in California, or, A Bold Hold-Up at Ceres. (This story first appeared in Street & Smith's Secret Service Series #58).
- #226—The Dalton Boys, or, The Tragedy at Coffeyville.
- #229—The Missouri River Hold-Up, or, The Dalton Gang in Dakota.
- #232—Bob Dalton's Tie-up, or, A Bold Dash for Liberty.
- #233—The Dalton Gang on the Rio Grande, and The Mexican Bandits.
- #234—Bob Dalton's Close Call, or, The Secret of Rider's Camp.
- #235—Bonnie Bess of Bar-20, or, The Dalton Gang in a New Role.
- #239—The Dalton Boys in Texas, or, The Big Four on Their Mettle.
- #240—The Dalton Boys' Electric Plant, or, The Tragedy in the Black Coulee.
- #243—In League With St. Louis Counterfeitors, or, How the Daltons Outwitted the Sleuths.
- #244—Bill Dalton's Great Fight, or, The Round-Up at Ingalls.
- #246—Tracked in the Big Swamp, or, The Dalton Boys in Indiana.
- #247—Rattlesnake Ralph's Lightning Pards, or, An Indian Territory Cowboy Trailing the Daltons.
- #251—The Rival Moonshiners, or, The Dalton Gang in Kentucky.
- #253—The Dalton Gang in Pennsylvania, or, Linen Duster Dan's Hot Trail.
- #254—The Iron Mountain Train Robbery, or, A New York Detective After the Daltons.
- #255—Lightning Lou, the Cajun De-

tective, or, The Dalton Gang in Louisiana.

#257—Out With the Apache Kid, or, The Dalton Gang on the Border. (This bloodthirsty Mescalero was for a time a highly valued Apache scout employed by the Government. He became a lone-wolfing terror. It was thought that a frontiersman named "Wallapai" Clark finally killed the Kid, but has now been proved he was alive a long time afterward).

#258—Dora Lee, the Dashing Deputy, or, The Dalton Gang in a New Deal.

#260—Bob Dalton's Double, or, The Outlaw and the Counterfeit Ticket-Makers.

#261—Tom King, the Woman Bandit, or, The Dalton Gang and the Three Star Ranchers. (Tom King, whatever her real name, bossed a gang that robbed banks and trains in Oklahoma. She wore male garb while raiding, but in the towns assumed feminine attire and is said to have been very attractive).

#263—The Dalton Gang in Mississippi, or, The Head Hunters of Death Bayou.

#265—Queered by Cal, the Quaker, or, The Dalton Gang in the Bau Lands.

#267—Sidetracking a Pay Train, or, The Daltons' Raid for Big Booty.

#270—A Hold-Up at the Blue Devil Mine, or, The Dalton Gang in the Cripple Creek Country.

#273—The Belle of Poverty Gulch, or, The Dalton Gang on a Rough Trail.

#275—A Game of Bluff, or, The Dalton Gang in a Wild West Show.

(to be continued)

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NEWSY NEWS

by Ralph F. Cummings
Fisherville, Mass.

Tony London of Frank Merriwell Enterprises writes that they have concluded a deal with NBC to produce a musical "spectacular" in color for TV entitled "The Life and Loves of Frank Merriwell" or "True Blue". The book has already been written by Henry Garson and the music is being written by Jule Styne and lyrics by Sol Meyers. When all these elements are completed I will advise you of the date of broadcast.

Ralph Adimari, referring to Mr. Knott's recent article, says he must be a phenom as he has read all the Tip Top Weeklies, New Tip Top Weeklies, Tip Top Semi-Monthly and Wide Awake Magazine as well as all the Alger stories.

Kenneth Daggett has been in the hospital, the week of Aug. 24th, for an operation, and says he has had lots of aches and pains in the last 2 years, but now he is feeling better already. Ken has been reading some Pluck and Luck and Work and Win while he was in there.

Mr. and Mrs. John F. McDonald from Somerville, Mass., were out here Aug. 29th for a visit and a little trading. John wants me to come out there, as he is sure he has some stuff I'd be interested in.

Irven N. Arnold reports that Harry B. McConnell, Cadiz, Ohio, died Sep. 5, 1956, at the age of 88. He was a life-long resident of Cadiz. He was born there Sep. 14, 1867. He was a graduate of Cadiz High School, and then he entered the office of the Cadiz Republican when 17 years old and was connected with it until his death, being owner and editor from 1912 to 1937. God bless him wherever he may be.

Irven has known Harry over 25 years, personally, and we all know you are going to miss him, as we all will.

Adventures of Buffalo Bill Cody of the Pony Express, appeared in No. 10 a comic magazine, pub. by the "Charlton Comic's Group," Derby,

Conn. June 1956 at 10c per copy. Sure is interesting.

Capt. Frank C. Acker of the U. S. S. Monrovia, while in Izmir, Turkey, early in Sept., came across a Buffalo Bill comic book, printed in Turkish, so you see, Buffalo Bill can be in other parts of the world as well. The paper isn't as good as the paper in our comic books—as Captain Frank says, it makes one realize better how good ours are. The name of the Turkish Buffalo Bill is called the "Rocket." Not colored. Only the covers are colored. Picture shows an Indian with raised tomahawk, jumping from a large high rock side of the road onto Buffalo Bill who has a pistol in his left hand. Sure is an oddity, I'll say. So, Buffalo Bill still lives! Thanks ever so much Frank for sending it to me, Pard.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Brauner came up to Boston, Mass., on a little vacation, and says he wanted to call me up, but understood I didn't have a telephone, but I do have one, it is Grafton (Mass.) VE 9-4622. (VE stands for Vernon.) So any one coming up or down this way, make a note of this number, and when you call, let it ring 6 or 7 times, just in case I'm in the bath tub when it rings, as some times I have been, and before I could get to the phone it would stop. If you don't get me, then try again in half an hour or more, just in case I might be up in the attic, which I do quite a bit to dig out various items people want, if I have them. So I'm sorry Herman missed me, better luck next time, Pard. Herman said everybody was very friendly to them and they had a wonderful time, he says to tell the boys in and around Boston he is sorry he didn't have a chance to see them, and have a peek at their collections, but there will be another time.

Mr. and Mrs. Denis R. Rogers of Montreal, Quebec, Canada, was down to Florida, and on his way back he visited with Ed LeBlanc. I think he visited with Charlie Daniel while he was down in Florida.

Remember James C. Morris? He is at RFD 17, Fairmont, W. Va., and

remember back years ago when he used to buy the old timers, and do some trading, say in the early '30s. Well, poor fellow is having a time of it now, his wife has been in and out of the hospital a good many times. His wife is back in the hospital again, going on 5 weeks now. She has a bad heart and high blood pressure. James also says he has a heart condition, too, otherwise he is feeling fairly well.

Jim loves to collect stamps and match covers, and has a collection of 2000 match covers from all over the world. Also some pretty old cards and cloth bound books, and is making up some scrap books too. Jim is always glad to hear from other members, especially some of the old members he had dealings with.

In the winter issue of the "News From Home," for 1955 there is a fine article, called "Filing the Spaces." No author's name given. Sure is a fine artice, based on the Jack Wright and Frank Reades, as well as a mixture of others, such as the Bradys, Liberty Boys of '76, Work and Win, Wide Awake Library, Algiers, Frank Reade Weekly Magazine, Pluck and Luck, Buffalo Bill. It sure is a fine article, with pictures of Frank Reades and Jack Wright's inventions to go with it. Also the Demon of the Deep, Demon of the Clouds, and the Steam Man.

Maybe you can still get a copy, if you write to Kenneth H. Dunshee, editor of the magazine, 57 Maiden Lane, New York 8, N. Y. Better send 10c to help towards the postage should he have any left for "News From Home" is a wonderful little magazine, put out by Mr. Dunshee and the Home Fire Insurance Co. of New York.

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 Street & Smith—Alger Series—100, 129, 142, 151, 197, 198. Nice copies.
 S. & S. New Magnet Lib.—1160, 1248, 1252, 1253, 1352, nice copies.
 Leisure Hour Library—Lupton. Nos. 251 to 261 (lacks #260).
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